

October 10, 2016

Your Honor,

I am writing you concerning the Pollard vs. Remington case. My name is Roger Dale Stringer. I live in south MS. I am a crew foreman on a power line construction and maintenance crew for the local electric cooperative.

I am not one of the legal experts you are used to dealing with. I am merely a man who has lived through the horror of a Remington malfunction.

I grew up in the outdoors hunting and fishing, with Remington being a regular companion. My first child, a son named Zachary, was born March 28, 1996. My second, also a son named Justin, was born August 26, 1999. They also were growing up living an outdoor lifestyle. We had countless adventures and I have the pictures to prove it.

In 2008, I decided Zac was old enough and mature enough to have his very own deer rifle. His mother and I bought him a Remington Model 700 25-06 for Christmas.

Our lives continued until February 2011 when their mother and I agreed to disagree for the last time. I left her and my boys to live with my parents temporarily while we sorted out the mess.

By June 11, 2011 we had decided to sell the house and land and split our assets. That afternoon, we had an inquiry about buying the house. The boys and their mother were still living in the house but the boys didn't know the house was to be sold. I took them out to eat so she could show the house to the prospective buyer. When the boys and I returned, she was gone to a birthday party. I didn't go in with the boys, I just hugged them and told them I loved them and bye. There was no particular fanfare, they wanted to get inside to watch a movie coming on at 8:30 p.m. titled How To Train Your Dragon. I returned to my parents' house.

About 20 minutes later I got a hysterical phone call from my wife, the only word I could understand was Justin. I left my parents' house at break-neck speed headed to my boys about 2 ½ miles away. Zac called while I was driving and said Justin had been shot.

For the sake of brevity and sparing gruesome details (all can be found in the trial transcript) I will omit a lot and focus on my reason for writing you. Zac had that 25-06 in his hands loaded in the house, stood up off the couch and it went off, hitting Justin in the head, killing him instantly.

Zac was afraid and confused by what had happened so he did the worst thing possible, he tried to lie. It was immediately obvious to the investigators he was not being truthful. The following Friday, June 17, after Justin's funeral, Zac was arrested and charged with murder. When Zac did begin to open up about what had happened, no one but his mother believed him, including me. Zac was tried for murder in February 2013 and convicted of manslaughter.

Zac began serving his sentence at CMCF in Rankin County, MS. I had visited Zac all I could throughout the entire ordeal, the visits were a delicate verbal dance we did with me assuring him that I loved him and always would, no matter what.

No one knew my boys as well as I did, and I had always said I would know the truth when I heard it. It was probably August 2014 during a visit that Zac told me he was going to tell me the whole truth, that he had been trying to make sense of what happened that night ever since, and it still didn't to him.

Zac said he had lied for two reasons. Number 1, he knew he shouldn't have had the gun loaded in the house. Number 2, he said guns don't go off unless you push the safety off and pull the trigger and he said, "Daddy, I didn't do either one." He said he knew no one would believe him, and he was right. That gun was sent to the state crime lab for standard testing and that was it. Not once in the investigation and trial was the integrity of that trigger (X-Mark Pro) questioned.

On March 14, 2015 divine intercession prompted me to google "Remington Model 700 spontaneous firing". I was taken completely by surprise by what that search showed me. I took what I had found to Zac's defense attorney, he was equally shocked.

The wheels of appeal began to turn, the search for a qualified expert willing to give testimony about the X-Mark Pro trigger started. No one locally was willing, I was told repeatedly yes those triggers are bad but we can't do anything for fear of legal action against us.

I attempted to contact Richard Barber, his name kept showing up in Remington searches, but I was unsuccessful. In early March 2016, we were at a standstill without expert testimony and no one wanted any part of court with Remington. I emailed CNBC since I had seen their work in Remington Under Fire, telling them my plight. Very shortly, Richard Barber contacted me.

He was a very straightforward, matter of fact, truthful chap from the beginning. He told me if we sent him the trial information he requested, he would review the case. He said if it proved to be a worthy cause, he would do the case pro bono. If not, he would not touch it.

He has now reviewed the case and is in the process of helping Zac's defense attorney with the appeal of the conviction due to newly discovered evidence.

I fully realize that at the moment, Zac, in the court's eyes, is a convicted felon, reducing my words to the ramblings of a still grieving father. I would have preferred to wait until the appeal was done before writing you, but time is growing short for the case you are ruling on and I cannot, with clear conscience, remain silent any longer.

I have been following the Pollard vs. Remington case, hoping that something would come from it that would stop the death and destruction of innocent lives and families. On September 27, 2016 I got a postcard in the mail warning me of the potential hazard of the very gun that killed my youngest son. It was 5 years, 3 months and 16 days too late for my little buddy.

Your Honor, I humbly ask you on behalf of all those still in danger because of these triggers, please do what you can to keep this from happening to other families. I don't want anyone else to have to walk in my shoes.

Respectfully,



Roger Dale Stringer



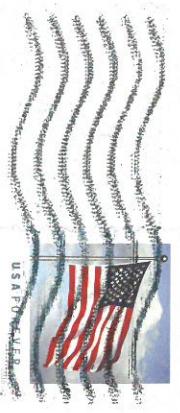
Justin Andrew Stringer
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